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**MILWAUKEE COUNTY EMS  
OPERATIONAL POLICY  
ELECTROCARDIOGRAPHIC  
MONITORING**

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**POLICY:**

- All patients evaluated by the paramedic team will be monitored in accordance with the standards of care, policies and protocols of Milwaukee County EMS.
- Standard Lead II configuration will be used for initial evaluation and continuous monitoring of the ECG. A 12-lead ECG will be obtained and transmitted for any patient experiencing symptoms of suspected cardiac origin.
- A six inch or longer strip will accompany the patient to the hospital
- ECG monitoring of a patient under the care of a paramedic team must be done by a licensed paramedic. BLS and other non-paramedic personnel may not be assigned nor assume responsibility to perform continuous ECG monitoring.
- Any change in rhythm will be documented on the run report and an attempt will be made to obtain a six inch strip of the new rhythm to be left with the patient at the hospital.
- The paramedic team will transmit an ECG "burst" to the Communications Base at the request of the medical control physician, and at least prior to:
  - Requesting a medical control physician for the call
  - Patient care intervention
  - Patient re-assessment (e.g. stop CPR)
  - Request to stop resuscitation efforts
- This policy does not exclude any patient from ECG monitoring or the paramedic team from transmitting an ECG burst to the Communications Base. Medical control should be contacted for medical orders when appropriate for symptomatic patients.